HOUSE No. 4916

The Commonwealth of Alaccachucatte

The Communicating of Inassathuseits	
create a silver aler	urphy of Burlington, for the committee on Ways and Means, that the Bill to rt community response system (House, No. 4344) ought to pass with an attuting a Bill to create a silver alert community response system (House, No. 4344).
	FOR THE COMMITTEE:
Name:	District/Address.

21st Middlesex

Charles Murphy

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year Two Thousand and Ten

An Act TO CREATE A SILVER ALERT COMMUNITY RESPONSE SYSTEM.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

- 1 SECTION 1. Chapter 6A of the General Laws is hereby amended by inserting after section 18K the
- 2 following section:-
- 3 Section 18L. (a) As used in this section, the following words shall, unless the context clearly requires
- 4 otherwise, have the following meanings:-
- 5 "EMS first responder", a person providing emergency medical services as defined in section 1 of chapter
- 6 111C.
- 7 "First responders", members of police and fire departments, members of the state police participating in
- 8 highway patrol and members of emergency reserve units of a volunteer fire department or fire protection
- 9 district trained to administer first aid; provided, however, that first responders shall not include police
- officers, fire fighters and persons engaged in police and fire work whose duties are primarily clerical or
- 11 administrative.
- 12 "Private safety department", an entity, except for a municipality or a public safety department, that
- provides emergency police, fire, ambulance or medical services.
- "Public safety department", a functional division of a municipality or a state that provides fire fighting,
- 15 law enforcement, ambulance, medical or other emergency services.
- "Secretary", the secretary of public safety and security.
- 17 (b)There is hereby created a silver alert community response system. The silver alert system shall be
- 18 used, when appropriate, to alert public safety departments and private safety departments, when an adult
- 19 with serious memory impairment such as Alzheimer's disease or other dementia is reported to a police
- department as a missing person. The silver alert system shall direct and focus law enforcement and other
- 21 key response resources in a cost-effective way in a geographic area consistent with the missing person's

- 22 last known location and in accordance with the best available research data related to activities of persons
- with Alzheimer's disease or other dementia.
- 24 (c) The executive office of public safety and security, in conjunction with the department of state police,
- shall develop and implement the silver alert system. The secretary shall promulgate rules and regulations,
- as necessary, to ensure proper implementation of the silver alert system.
- 27 In promulgating rules and regulations, the secretary shall consult with the following: the secretary of the
- 28 executive office of elder affairs, the attorney general, the executive director of the state 911 department, a
- 29 representative of the state police, a representative of the Massachusetts Chiefs of Police Association, a
- 30 representative of the Massachusetts Sheriffs' Association, a park ranger with the department of
- 31 conservation and recreation, a representative of the Massachusetts/New Hampshire chapter of the
- 32 National Alzheimer's Association and a representative of the Alzheimer's Services of Cape Cod and the
- 33 Islands.
- 34 (d) All first responders, EMS first responders, 911 operators and other appropriate personnel as
- determined by the secretary shall be trained on the silver alert system application and protocols; provided
- further that re-training will be included in the annual in-service training curriculum for these personnel;
- and provided further that training shall include information about drivers whose memory impairments
- may put them at high risk for accidents or becoming lost while driving.
- 39 (e) The secretary shall develop a plan to ensure that the silver alert system will include use of a localized
- 40 reverse 911 emergency phone system.
- 41 SECTION 2. The executive office of public safety and security shall consider coordinating the silver
- 42 alert community response system established pursuant to section 18L of chapter 6A of the General Laws
- with the national MedicAlert +Safe Return Program.